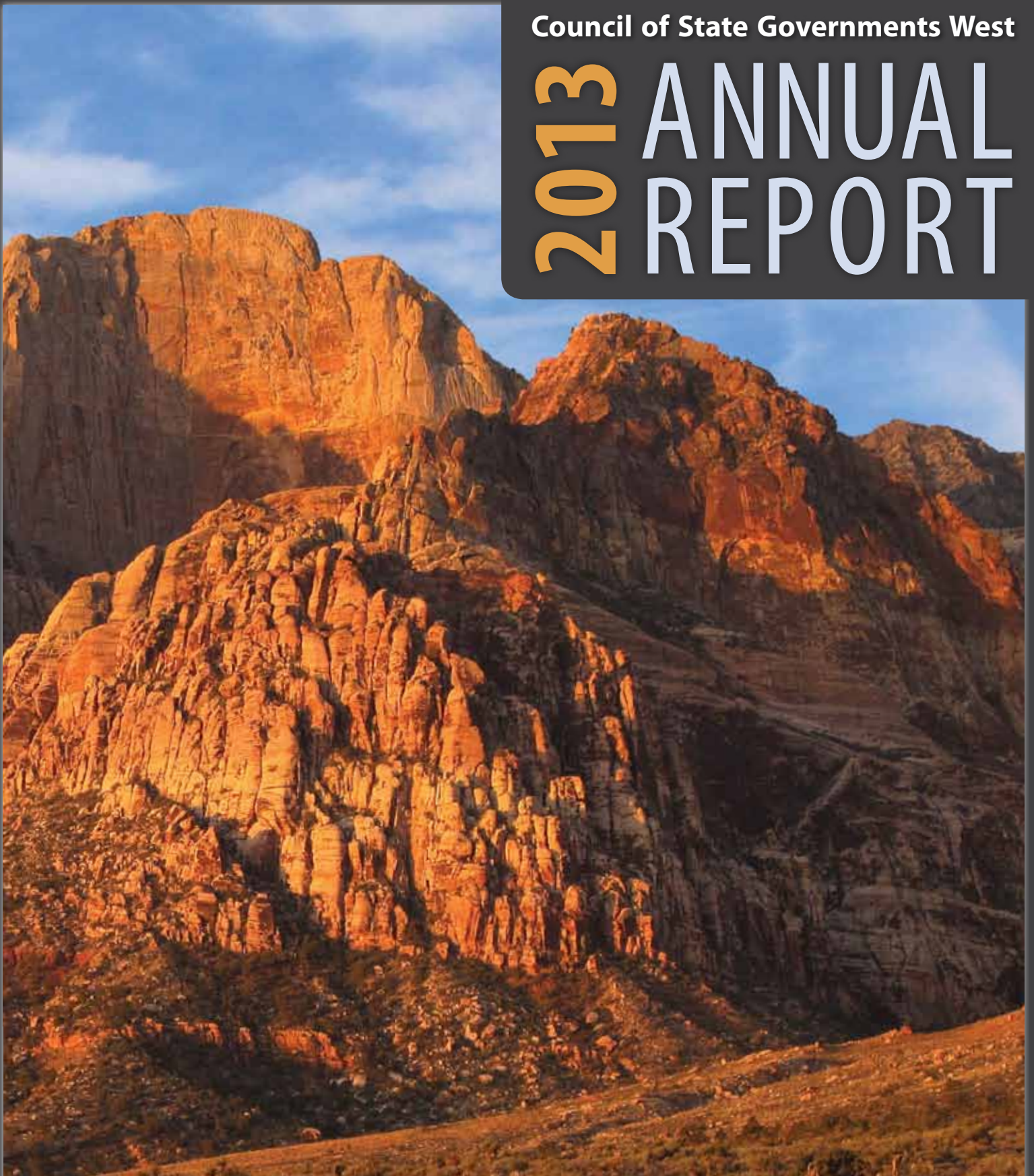


Council of State Governments West

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



"Serving Western Legislatures"



Western Legislative Academy



Border Legislative Conference



66th Annual Meeting

CSG West 2014 Officers



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We are pleased to share the CSG West 2013 annual report that highlights our programs and activities during the past year aimed at strengthening Western state legislators and legislative institutions.

The report provides an overview of our key forums and efforts, including the annual meeting, policy committees, legislative training opportunities, international exchanges and research resources available. It also identifies some of the key leaders and stakeholders that contributed to the ongoing success of CSG West.

CSG West is committed to serving Western states by providing a forum and program opportunities for leaders to share insights, broaden their perspectives and learn from each other. We look forward to continue advancing the mission of the organization and to empower Western lawmakers to achieve excellence in their respective legislative institutions.

Sincerely,
Craig, Nancy, Kelvin and Jeff
CSG West 2014 Officers

*Left to right: Representative Craig **Johnson**, Alaska, CSG West Chair; Senator Nancy **Todd**, Colorado, CSG West Chair-Elect; Senator Kelvin **Atkinson**, Nevada, CSG West Immediate Past Chair; Representative Jeff **Thompson**, Idaho, CSG West Vice Chair*



"Serving Western Legislatures"

Cover Photo: Red Rock Canyon State Park, Nevada

Edgar Ruiz
Executive
Director
CSG West



About CSG West

The Council of State Governments (CSG) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that fosters regional and national cooperation and promotes best practices among state leaders across the United States, as well as with our international partners in Canada and Mexico.

CSG West facilitates regional cooperation and the strengthening of Western state legislative institutions. CSG West advocates multistate partnerships and solutions, the exchange of capitol ideas, building leadership and promoting a regional vision that transcends state and international borders.

The membership of CSG West consists of the Western state legislatures of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Associate members from the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia as well as the Pacific islands of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam are also valued participants in CSG West.



CSG West Staff

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CSG West

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www.csgwest.org

CSG West 2013

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee serves as the board of directors of CSG West reviewing the work and activities of policy committees, adopting policy positions, selecting participants for the Western Legislative Academy and approving the annual selection of CSG West officers.

The Committee is comprised of

- Four CSG West officers
- Presiding legislative officers of both chambers of each Western state
- Ranking minority leaders of both chambers of each Western state
- Chair and vice chair of CSG West committees
- Legislators appointed by the presiding legislative officers of member states
- Western legislators serving as CSG national officers or leaders of CSG national committees and task forces
- Western legislators who are former CSG or CSG West chairs

Actions-at-a-Glance

July 30 and August 2, 2013
Las Vegas, Nevada

Selected the Western Legislative Academy Class of 2013

Adopted policy resolutions on

- Combating Aquatic Invasive Species
- Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling
- Reauthorization of the State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP) Grant Program
- Supporting Increased North American Cooperation and Coordination

Adopted resolutions in memory of Arch Lustberg and Alan Rosenthal respectively

Resolutions available at http://www.csghost.org/policy/resolutions_by_year.aspx

ALASKA

Charlie **Huggins**, President of the Senate
Johnny **Ellis**, Senate Minority Leader
John **Coghill**, Senator
Gary **Stevens**, Senator
Leslie **McGuire**, Senator
Mike **Chenault**, Speaker of the House



Representative Craig Johnson
CSG West Chair-Elect

Beth **Kerttula**, House Minority Leader
Lance **Pruitt**, Representative

ARIZONA

Andy **Biggs**, President of the Senate
Leah **Landrum Taylor**,
Senate Minority Leader
John **McComish**, Senator
Andy **Tobin**, Speaker of the House
Chad **Campbell**, House Minority Leader
Frank **Pratt**, Representative

CALIFORNIA

Darrell **Steinberg**,
President Pro Tempore
Bob **Huff**, Senate Minority Leader
John A. **Pérez**, Speaker of the Assembly
Connie **Conway**,
Assembly Minority Leader
Steven **Bradford**, Assembly Member

COLORADO

Lucia **Guzman**,
Senate President Pro Tem
Bill **Cadman**, Senate Minority Leader
Gail **Schwartz**, Senator



Senator Nancy Todd
CSG West Vice-Chair

Mark **Ferrandino**, Speaker of the House
Brian **DeGrosso**, House Minority Leader
Dickey **Lee** Hullinghorst, Representative
Claire **Levy**, Representative
Dan **Pabon**, Representative
Libby **Szabo**, Representative

HAWAII

Donna **Mercado Kim**,
President of the Senate
Sam **Slom**, Senate Minority Floor Leader
Brian T. **Taniguchi**, Senator
Joseph **Souki**, Speaker of the House
Aaron **Ling Johanson**,
House Minority Leader
Marcus **Oshiro**, Representative
Scott **Saiki**, Representative
Kyle **Yamashita**, Representative

IDAHO

Brent **Hill**, President Pro Tempore
Bart M. **Davis**, Senator
Michelle **Stennett**,
Senate Minority Leader
Dean **Mortimer**, Senator
Scott **Bedke**, Speaker of the House
John **Rusche**, House Minority Leader
Maxine **Bell**, Representative
Jeff **Thompson**, Representative
Richard **Wills**, Representative

MONTANA

Jeff **Essmann**, President of the Senate
Jon **Sesso**, Senate Minority Leader
Mark **Blasdel**, Speaker of the House
Chuck **Hunter**, House Minority Leader
Tom **Berry**, Representative
Doug **Kary**, Representative

NEVADA

Moises "Mo" **Denis**,
Senate Majority Floor Leader
Michael **Roberson**,
Senate Minority Leader



Senator Kelvin D. Atkinson
CSG West Chair

Marilyn **Kirkpatrick**,
Speaker of the Assembly
Paul **Anderson**, Assemblyman
Irene **Bustamante Adams**,
Assemblywoman
David **Bobzien**, Assemblyman
Marilyn **Dondero Loop**,
Assemblywoman
Jason **Frierson**, Assemblyman
Pat **Hickey**,
Assembly Minority Floor Leader
Lynn **Stewart**, Assemblyman
Teresa **Benitez-Thompson**,
Assemblywoman

NEW MEXICO

Mary Kay **Papen**,
President Pro Tempore
Stuart **Ingle**,
Senate Minority Floor Leader
Gay **Kernan**, Senator
Michael **Sanchez**, Senator
John **Sapien**, Senator
W. Ken **Martinez**, Speaker of the House
Donald **Bratton**,
House Minority Floor Leader
Rick **Miera**, Representative

OREGON

Peter **Courtney**, President of the Senate
Ted **Ferrioli**, Senate Republican Leader
Ginny **Burdick**, Senator
Jackie **Dingfelder**, Senator
Tina **Kotek**, Speakers of the House
Mike **McLane**, House Republican Leader
Sara **Gelser**, Representative

UTAH

Wayne **Niederhauser**,
President of the Senate
Gene **Davis**, Senate Minority Leader
Ralph **Okerlund**, Senator
J. Stuart **Adams**, Senator
Peter **Knudson**, Senator
Rebecca **Lockhart**,
Speaker of the House
Roger **Barrus**, Representative
Melvin R. **Brown**, Representative
Brad **Dee**, Representative
Jack **Draxler**, Representative
Jennifer **Seelig**, Representative
Brad **Wilson**, Representative

WASHINGTON

Rodney **Tom**, Senate Majority Coalition
Caucus Leader
Mark **Schoesler**,
Senate Republican Leader
Ed **Murray**, Senate Democratic Leader
Karen **Fraser**, Senator
Frank **Chopp**, Speaker of the House
Dan **Kristiansen**, House Minority Leader
Judy **Clibborn**, Representative
Sherry **Appleton**, Representative
Sam **Hunt**, Representative
Jeff **Morris**, Representative

WYOMING

Tony **Ross**, President of the Senate
Christopher **Rothfuss**,
Senate Minority Floor Leader
Ogden **Driskill**, Senator
John **Schiffer**, Senator
Tom **Lubnau**, Speaker of the House
Mary **Throne**,
House Minority Floor Leader



Representative Rosie Berger
CSG West Immediate Past Chair

Elaine **Harvey**, Representative

ALBERTA, CANADA

Mary Anne **Jablonski**,
Member Legislative Assembly

Ex-Officio Member

Michael **Christensen**, Director
Legislative Research & Counsel, Utah

Agricultural Water Conservation & Rural Broadband



August 1, 2013 CSG West
Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

The inaugural meeting of the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee focused on several issues important to rural America: agricultural water conservation, rural broadband, the farm bill, Nevada's efforts to grow agriculture, and a brief recap of the State Ag and Rural Leaders (SARL) meeting.



Alaska Representative Lynn Gattis, Utah Senator Ralph Okerlund

Dr. David Zoldoske from the Center for Irrigation Technology at Cal State University Fresno spoke on the progress made with agricultural water conservation in the central valley of California and presented results of a study on the lifecycle of water in the central valley. The study found that there is very little additional water to be saved through conservation based on current

technology when looking at the full lifecycle of water and that improvements in irrigation often translated to reduced groundwater replenishment.

Frank Ohrtman from Colorado shared what can be done to provide high-speed internet to residents in rural areas. His plan for developing community broadband is defined by 5A's: Aggregate Experience, Assess Your Broadband Environment, Assess and Aggregate Demand, Adopt Existing Resources and Solutions, and Adapt for Sustainability. Ohrtman advocates a technology neutral approach to developing community broadband systems because each community is different and has different challenges and needs when it comes to deployment.

A series of short updates closed the forum, including **Doug Busselman** with the Nevada Farm Bureau with an update on farm bill, and **Lynn Hettrick**, Deputy Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture, providing steps taken to expand agriculture in Nevada.



Left to right: New Mexico President Pro Tem Mary Kay Pappen, New Mexico Representative George Dodge, Arizona Representative Frank Pratt, CSG West Staff Hans Poschman

Session presentations are available at www.csqwest.org/presentations.aspx



CHAIR
Gail Schwartz
Senator
Colorado



VICE CHAIR
Frank Pratt
Representative
Arizona

Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee

Members engage in policy discussions about the needs of rural communities and the importance of agriculture in our economy and food supply.



agriculture &
rural affairs
committee

Binational Cooperation

July 29, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

This inaugural meeting of the Canada Relations Committee welcomed appointed members from Western state and provincial legislatures, as well as members from the Canada-US Inter-Parliamentary Group.



CO-CHAIR
Karen Fraser
Senator
Washington



CO-CHAIR
Mary Anne Jablonski
Member of the
Legislative Assembly
Alberta, Canada

Canada Relations Committee

The committee facilitates dialogue on a wide range of binational issues, including agriculture, border crossings, economic development, energy, health, security, trade, transportation and more.



Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles, **David Fransen**, provided an overview of “The United States & Canada: Friends, Neighbors & Partners in Growth.” He highlighted the amount of 2012 bilateral trade, \$710 billion in goods and services. The number of U.S. jobs supported by this trade is 8 million, of which 1.9 million are in the West. Canada is the #1 export market for five Western states - Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Wyoming.



Consul General
David Fransen,
Consulate General of
Canada in Los Angeles

Caron Wilson, the Border Implementation Team Policy Advisor for the Privy Council Office (PCO) of Canada, discussed Beyond the Border, a binational federal program. The PCO is the hub of non-partisan, public service support to the Prime Minister and Cabinet. Beyond the Border is a joint declaration by Canada and the United States announced on February 4, 2011 that articulates a shared approach to security in which both countries work together to address threats within and away from their borders, while expediting lawful trade and travel.



MOU on Unmanned Vehicle Systems (UVS): The Honorable Cal Dallas, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations for the Government of Alberta, left, and Steve Hill, director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote opportunities in the UVS sector following the conclusion of the Canada Relations Committee meeting.

Cal Dallas, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations for the Government of Alberta, shared information on trade and market access. He noted that one of the major challenges, as it relates to oil and natural gas to help meet the world's future supply needs, is limited pipeline infrastructure to carry this product to new markets.

Session presentations are available at www.csghost.org/presentations.aspx

Growing Economies, Redesigning Agencies and Economic Trends

July 31, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

Growing State Economies: Twelve Actions

Erin Sparks, a senior policy analyst for the National Governors Association's Center for Best Practices outlined twelve actions states could implement to spur economic growth. Her research indicated the majority of growth in state economies comes from companies already doing business in the state. Only 2% of growth comes from companies recruited to a state. Entrepreneurship is also a key component of successful programs with current data showing that more startup companies come from the 45-64 age group than from ages 25 to 35. According to Sparks, states should also target high growth companies by company age and economic sector. Finally, states should develop collaborations among state agencies, the private sector and universities instead of specific programs.



Hawaii Representative
Kyle Yamashita
chaired the forum



CHAIR
John Sapien
Senator
New Mexico



VICE CHAIR
Tom Berry
Representative
Montana



Idaho Senator Chuck Winder

Redesigning State Economic Development Agencies

Ms. Sparks also presented on how state agencies have been redesigning economic development agencies to meet rising global competition, decrease program inefficiencies, and respond to fiscal constraints. Successful states have involved the private sector more, not for funding but for business expertise – primarily recruiting CEOs from high growth companies. The most successful agencies are nimble to change, follow core missions closely, and have active governors in promoting economic development efforts.

How Did New Mexico Lead the Nation in Exporting in 2012?

Ed Herrera, International Trade Director for New Mexico, outlined the aspects of a successful state trade office. First, the office helps companies with market research and distribution, product adaptation to foreign markets, and market support. Second, the office assists companies in overcoming barriers to trade such as language, culture, and legal and regulatory obstacles. Finally, the state office helps companies locate export financing. Herrera's closing observation was the shifting away from being Eurocentric to more trade in the Western hemisphere.

Session presentations are available at www.csghost.org/presentations.aspx



Economic Development and Trade Committee

Focusing on the growth of Western state economies and the region as a whole, the members explore a variety of approaches to expand and diversify state economies.

economic
development
& trade



Education Tools and Skills to Succeed

August 1, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada



CHAIR
Dean Mortimer
Senator
Idaho



VICE CHAIR
Marilyn Dondero Loop
Assemblywoman
Nevada

Education Committee

The Education forums provide the opportunity for Western legislators to share innovative programs and best practices aimed at achieving successful educational outcomes with limited resources.

Education Committee members discussed critical policy options that could help create an educational system in which all students receive a rich education, completing high school with skills to succeed in college and the workforce. Specifically, they addressed policy and practice targeting early learning and preschool as well as implementation of rigorous academic standards and assessment systems. Program presenters offered the tools needed to move state educational systems beyond the traditional setting to create innovative environments where students have the opportunity to graduate ready for success and with the ability to reach their full potential.

Dr. Scott Norton, Director of Standards, Assessments and Accountability for the Council of Chief State School Officers, presented a national perspective on education reform and transformation and shared what's currently happening in the West with the Common Core State Standards. **Jim Squires** of the National Institute for Early Education Research offered an overview of preschool/early education and the importance of access and high quality programs.

Nan Vendegna, Supervisor of Colorado Preschool Program, spoke about access to preschool. **Kelli Bohanon**, Assistant Director of Partnership and Collaboration



Left to right: Former Washington Representative Marcie Maxwell and Washington Representative Kristine Lytton

at the Washington State Department of Early Learning, spoke about high quality preschool programs. The second panel on rigorous academic standards and assessment systems was moderated by **Oregon Senator Arnie Roblan**. **Cindy Sharp** - Director of Assessment, Program Accountability, and Curriculum of the Nevada Department of Education - spoke on the Common Core State Standards transition plan and implementation challenges and opportunities. **Michael Gilligan**, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives from Achieve, spoke about the Next Generation Science Standards.



Left to right: Nevada Assemblywoman Marilyn Dondero Loop, Idaho Senator Dean Mortimer, and Oregon Senator Arnie Roblan

Preparations for Higher Education Access

August 2, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

The inaugural meeting of the Higher Education Task Force explored the rising cost of college and how to provide career skills for a globally competitive marketplace.



Left to right: Montana Representative Douglas Coffin, Arizona Senator Kelli Ward, and Washington Representative Norm Johnson

David Longanecker, President of Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education in Boulder, Colorado, set the stage with an overview of Higher Education in the West. **Representative Michael Dembrow**

of Oregon shared information about Oregon's Pay it Forward program, which included Oregon's higher education government structure and how the legislature plays a role. **Representative Myra Crownover** of Texas, member of the Joint Committee on Oversight of Higher Education Governance, Excellence and Transparency, gave an overview of their joint committee's efforts. **Chancellor Dan Klaich** and **Constance Brooks** of the Nevada Systems of Higher Education shared their state's vision and plan.

Dennis Jones, President of National Center for Higher Education Management Systems in Boulder, Colorado spoke about higher education finance challenges and offered policy options. **Dr. Jose Garcia**, Secretary of New Mexico Higher Education Department, shared an overview on higher education financing in the state of New Mexico. **Richard Rhoda**, Executive Director of Tennessee Higher Education Commission, talked about his state's commitment to making postsecondary education available to all of its citizens, expanding access to a greater number of students and assisting citizens in reaching their educational goals.

Session presentations are available at www.csqwest.org/presentations.aspx



CHAIR
Brian Taniguchi
Senator
Hawaii



VICE CHAIR
Jennifer Seelig
Representative
Utah

Higher Education Task Force

With the cost of college tuition rising in a globally competitive marketplace for career skills, members explore how to deliver quality higher education at a price that doesn't prevent access.



higher
education



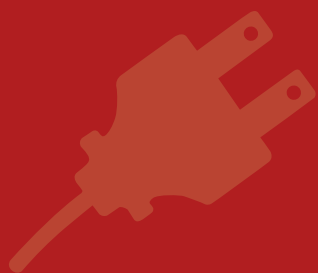
CHAIR
John Schiffer
Senator
Wyoming



VICE CHAIR
Steven Bradford
Assemblymember
California

Energy & Public Lands Committee

The Energy & Public Lands Committee examines policies that ensure the reliable generation and transmission of the West's energy resources as well as issues that challenge multiple uses of the West's public lands.



energy &
public lands

An Electrical Transmission Compact

August 1, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

Genesis of the Project

Kansas Representative Tom Sloan spoke to problems with siting of electrical transmission lines, particularly the need to move renewable energy sources that are quite far from customer loads. Under the leadership of the CSG Center for Interstate Compacts, an advisory board was created to explore the creation of an interstate electrical transmission compact with the following guiding principles: maintain states' rights, be cost and time effective for all parties, include a way for federal agencies to participate, reduce litigation, and ensure hearings in every state where a line was being considered.



Crady DeGolian, CSG Director of the
National Center for Interstate Compacts

What is an interstate compact?

Crady DeGolian, the Director of CSG's National Center for Interstate Compacts, outlined that compacts promote cooperation, provide for uniformity of laws, create economies of scale, ensure collective sovereignty, and respond to national priorities. The reason an electrical transmission compact could easily move ahead was the passage of the 2005 Energy Policy Act that allowed states to form compacts. Compact goals are to simplify the application process, create a governance structure, have a dispute resolution process, and be financed by the applicants.

How Does an Electrical Transmission Compact Work?



Washington Representative Jeff Morris

Washington Representative Jeff Morris explained that one of the major advantages of a compact is to expedite a timeline for permitting. The compact will be composed of three member panels from each state with an Interstate Compact Commission for administrative support. The compact should be competitive with the rest of the world, have federal participation, be technology neutral, and include national partners.

How is a Compact Administered?

Sam Razor, the Assistant Director for the Interstate Commission for Adult Offender Supervision in Lexington, Kentucky, described the administrative structure of the Compact and the processes within the Commission he oversees. A key aspect of the Commission's work is that all direction comes from the states; the staff does not work unilaterally apart from the states. The staff provides on-site training, runs a mentoring program, self-audits for efficiencies, and works to be flexible in its services to members.

Session presentations are available at www.csghost.org/presentations.aspx

Fiscal Perspectives: What's Ahead for States

August 1, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

Fiscal Perspectives: What's Ahead for States

Brian Sigritz from the National Association of State Budget Officers provided an overview of current state fiscal conditions, including an outlook for states in fiscal 2014 and beyond. CSG's Washington D.C. Director, **Chris Whatley**, shared perspectives on how events in Washington will impact states in the 2014 legislative sessions. He noted that while cliff-like deadlines have moved off the front pages, they continue to drive much of the thinking on Capitol Hill. However, with both the House and Senate taking up tax reform and the Marketplace Fairness Act moving forward, the federal agenda continues to offer both threats and opportunities for state budgets.



Chris Whatley, CSG D.C.
Officer Director



Dr. Gary VanLandingham,
Director, Pew-MacArthur
Results First Initiative

A Look at Budget Strategies for Better Outcomes

Dr. Gary VanLandingham discussed the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative - a model that a growing number of states are using to help improve the return on investment delivered to citizens. **Charles Sallee** of the New Mexico Legislative Finance Committee shared preliminary experiences using the Results First cost-benefit analysis tool. **John Schaff**, Utah's Legislative Auditor General, identified methodology and case examples of performance audits that significantly impacted the budget process, demonstrating how legislative committees control the audit scope and implementation of the recommendations.

Economic Recovery: Consumer Spending and Housing Industry

Michael P. Niemira - VP, Chief Economist and Research Director for the International Council of Shopping Centers - addressed the question of how important brick-and-mortar shops are for state and local government revenues and provided some key trends affecting consumer spending. **Rick Judson**, President of the National Association of Home Builders, explored the current status of the U.S. housing market and challenges faced in the legislative arena.



Hawaii Representatives Dee Morikawa and Sylvia Luke, Colorado Speaker Mark Ferrandino



CHAIR
Mel Brown
Representative
Utah



VICE CHAIR
Ginny Burdick
Senator
Oregon

Fiscal Affairs Committee

Chairs and members of finance and appropriation committees in Western legislatures convene to exchange ideas and experiences on issues impacting state budgets.



fiscal
affairs

Session presentations are available at www.csgwest.org/presentations.aspx



CHAIR
Elaine Harvey
Representative
Wyoming



VICE CHAIR
David P. Bobzien
Assemblyman
Nevada

Health Committee

With particular focus on the recent passage of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the Health Committee addresses challenges and identifies common health goals and solutions.



health

Health Insurance Exchanges

July 31, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada

Health Committee members exchanged information about their states' innovative approaches to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) implementation in developing insurance exchanges, heard insurance company perspectives, and received a federal update.

Arkansas Representative John Burris talked about Arkansas House Bill 1143 that will use federal Medicaid funding to provide private option health care for low-income residents. **Jon M. Hager**, executive director of Silver State Health Insurance Exchange, shared the elements of the Nevada Health Link web portal. Among the Exchange goals is to increase the number of insured persons and assist residents with access to programs and premium assistance tax credits.



New Mexico Senator
Gay Kernan

Leanne Gassaway, Regional Vice President for State Advocacy at America's Health Insurance Plans in Washington, D.C. shared information on key elements on the health insurance market. **Herb K. Schultz**, Regional Director for Region IX of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provided an update on the Health Insurance as it related to Western states. He shared that all qualified health plans will cover essential health benefits such as ambulance and emergency services, hospitalization, maternity and new born care, mental health and substance abuse services, behavioral health treatment, prescription drugs, rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices, laboratory services and preventive care.

Health: How Much does Diabetes Cost your State?

August 1, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada

The rapid growth of diabetes in the United States is a large contributor to increased U.S. health care costs. The American Diabetes Association (ADA) estimates cost of diagnosed diabetes has risen to \$245 billion in 2012 from \$174 billion in 2007. According to the Center for Disease Control, diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure, non-traumatic lower limb amputations, and new cases of blindness among adults in the United States.



Francisco Prieto, M.D.,
American Diabetes
Association

Francisco Prieto, M.D., Member of ADA National Advocacy Committee & ADA Latino Diabetes Action Council, shared why legislators should care about the rising incidence of diabetes and the latest ADA data on costs of diabetes to each state. **Michelle Hansen**, Chronic Disease Manager at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, talked about her state's effort to "move the needle" on diabetes, and why Colorado is the state with the lowest incidence of diabetes in the nation. **Heather Hodge**, Director of Chronic Disease Prevention at YMCA, explained the Diabetes Prevention Program and other resources.

Session presentations are available at www.csqwest.org/presentations.aspx



Water Issues in the West

August 1, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

Ken Nowak from the Bureau of Reclamation shared the findings of the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study. The study found that by 2060, there will be a supply and demand imbalance of 3.2 million acre-feet per year. The Bureau collected more than 150 suggestions for how to deal with the imbalance, and then looked at the cost and the benefit of implementing each of the solutions. Currently the Bureau is studying the options to determine which are the most feasible in solving the water supply shortage.



Wyoming Senator
Larry Hicks



Alaska Representative
Kurt Olson

Doug Bennett of the Southern Nevada Water Authority and **Daniel Gerrity** from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas spoke about water conservation and reuse. While per capita water use has decreased greatly in the last 10 years, overall water use has remained stagnant as population growth has eaten up the reduced per capita usage. Bennett admitted that while they have a ways to go, their reducing vegetation program and water capture and reuse program are making great progress. Daniel focused on how water reuse can be used to reduce consumptive water usage. He showed examples of towns that have added water reuse by treating waste water into drinking supply.

Dr. Kelly Redmond, Deputy Director and Regional Climatologist of the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno, Nevada talked about climate change and how it will affect water supply in the future. To close out the session, **Tony Willardson** of the Western States Water Council, shared policies that can be implemented to deal with climate extremes and water supply.



Tony Willardson of the Western States Water Council, shared policies that can be implemented to deal with climate extremes and water supply.

Alaska Representative
Beth Kerttula



Idaho Senator
Jeff Siddoway



CHAIR
Jackie Dingfelder
Senator
Oregon



VICE CHAIR
Lance Pruitt
Representative
Alaska

Water & Environment Committee

Growing and competing demands of water and the environment, how to better manage water resources, and the sustainability of the West's land, air and water are the focus of the committee's efforts.


water &
environment
committee

Session presentations are available at www.csqwest.org/presentations.aspx

Nevada Welcomes Western Legislators



CSG-WEST 2013

**Bright Lights:
Shining on the
Progress of
the West**




July 30-August 2, 2013

CSG West 66th Annual Meeting

CSG West Chair, Nevada Senator Kelvin D. Atkinson (pictured above), welcomed nearly 600 lawmakers, private sector and guests assembled for the 66th CSG West annual meeting held at The Mirage in Las Vegas, Nevada.



The Future

NEXT EXIT 



The Future Starts Now

Trend spotter **Magnus Lindkvist** energized the crowd during the Opening Session with new ways of thinking about the future. With technologies simpler than they once were, according to Lindkvist, anyone who can enable people to do more with less will have a winning formula. He noted that change happens slowly; and you should never

reject an idea because it hasn't worked before. Lindkvist used examples of changes over time, which answered the theme of his presentation, "When does the future begin?"

Leadership Appreciation

Beth Loudy, executive director of State Government Affairs Council (SGAC) (left) and **Jennifer Mendez**, board member of SGAC and vice president of government relations for The Carpet & Rug Institute, presented a prestigious leadership award to Senator **Kelvin Atkinson** of Nevada in recognition of his dedication for serving as Chair of CSG West.



Politics in America



A newswoman with more than a decade of experience covering the world's biggest stories, **Claire Shipman**, a senior contributor to ABC News, took meeting participants to the front lines of global events. Shipman provided an inside look at the events playing out in today's headlines, offering a global view of the difficult role the U.S. plays in the world today and the many challenges that face the Obama administration.





An American Economic Renaissance

Rich Karlgaard shared economic predictions from a unique vantage point as a television commentator, board director and entrepreneur-turned-publisher/columnist for *Forbes* magazine. His identification of post-recession trends driving business and investment climates portrayed a look at an American Economic Renaissance geared toward cities and states that can foster science and innovation.



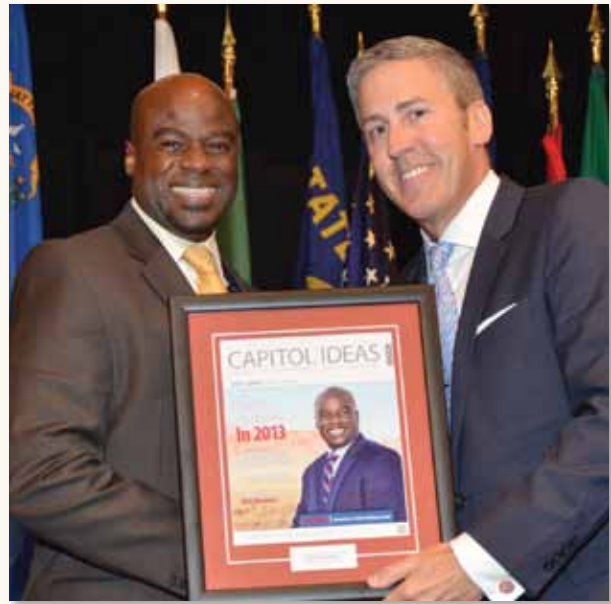
Bettye Fahrenkamp Award

CSG West Chair, **Nevada Senator Kelvin Atkinson** (right), presented the Bettye Fahrenkamp Award for Distinguished Legislative Leadership on Behalf of Western States to former Nevada Co-Speaker **Lynn Hettrick**. This annual award, named in honor of Bettye Fahrenkamp of Fairbanks, Alaska, recognizes leaders whose legislative careers demonstrate the ability to see and work beyond the border of their own states in the interest of the West.

Hettrick served in the Nevada Assembly from 1992 to 2006, including a stint as Co-Speaker of the Assembly in 1995 and Minority Leader for 10 years. During that time he served as CSG West Chair (2001-2002) and as the national Chair of the Council of State Governments (2005). He led several regional and national task forces during his tenure with CSG that were consensus building and facilitated the exchange of good ideas across state borders. While he has served in other community and state government capacities, Hettrick continues a distinguished career serving the people of Nevada as Deputy Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture.



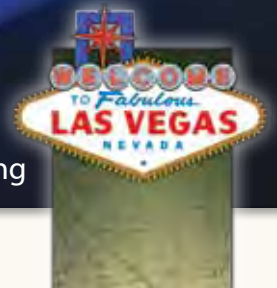
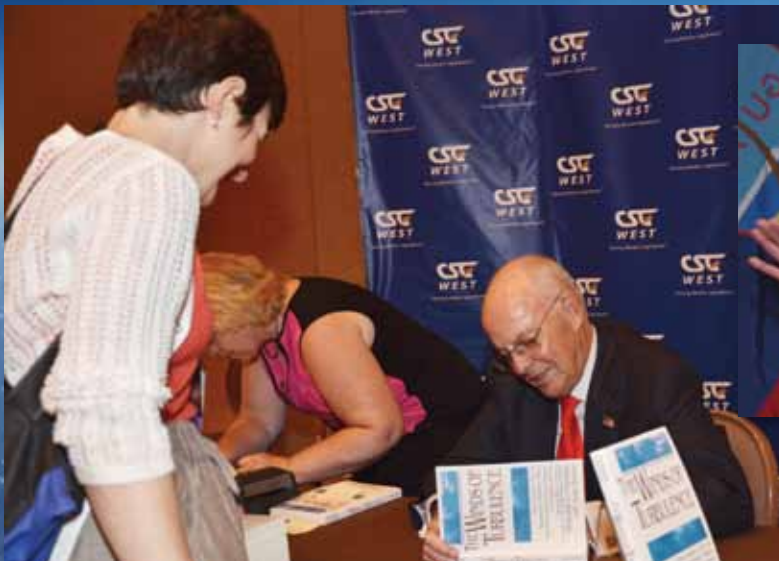
Special Recognition



Council of State Governments (CSG) Executive Director/CEO **David Adkins** (right) gave CSG West Chair, **Nevada Senator Kelvin Atkinson**, a framed copy of CSG's Capitol Ideas magazine cover, recognizing Sen. Atkinson for his Western regional leadership in the CSG family.

Leadership in Turbulent Times

Former CEO of the highly successful Southwest Airlines, **Howard Putnam**'s ultimate objective focused on "bottom line improvement." He believes cultures that place people as their #1 priority have the greatest long-term impact and success. Putnam's list of 10 essential leadership attributes includes honesty and integrity; passion; vision; excellent listening skills; no AEE – arrogance, ego or exclusion; ability to embrace change; international mentality; grasping the value of technology; education and experience; and being a people leader.



Future of Voting: Technology and Change



The Future of Western Legislatures forum, chaired by **Washington Representative Sam Hunt** and vice chair **Representative Jeff Thompson of Idaho**, convened at the annual meeting. Several experts shared information about the new developments and implementation of election technology. Panelist included **Zach Markovits**, Manager of the PEW Election Initiatives program, along with former Washington Secretary of State **Sam Reed** and current Secretaries of State, **Ross Miller** from Nevada and **Scott Gessler** from Colorado.

The presentations provided concrete examples of how technology is changing almost every aspect of our lives, including the voting and election administration. State legislators play an important policy making role when it comes to voting - affecting how technology is used to improve voter registration and access, disseminating election information and ensuring election integrity. The diverse panel of experts discussed current uses of technology, shared best practices and offered candid perspectives on what the future holds for technology and voters.



Former Washington Secretary of State
Sam Reed



Left to right: Zach Markovits of PEW Election Initiatives and Secretaries of State, Scott Gessler from Colorado and Ross Miller from Nevada

Women in Politics: How Women are Changing the Workplace and World

"Good Morning America" reporter **Claire Shipman** discussed the changing role of women in politics. As a career woman who is the mother of two young children, Shipman shared what it's like to balance a high-profile professional life with a hectic personal life. She offered tips on how to survive and even thrive in the fast-paced world. Shipman is the co-author of *The New York Times* bestseller, *Womenomics: Write Your Own Rules for Success*.



Claire Shipman, co-author of *The New York Times* bestseller, *Womenomics: Write Your Own Rules for Success*

Left to right: Oregon Senators Jackie Dingfelder and Elizabeth Steiner Hayward



Left to right: Linda Barefoot of Purdue Pharma and Montana Representative Joanne Blyton



Hawaii Representative
Lauren Matsumoto



Nevada Senator
Debbie Smith
chaired the Women
in Politics Forum
with Claire Shipman



Highlights of the North America Summit V

Of all the CSG regions, the West is the only region that borders both Canada and Mexico, providing a unique opportunity to bring together state and provincial lawmakers from all three countries to discuss critical issues facing North America.



Dr. Robert A. Pastor

Dr. Robert A. Pastor, professor and director of the Center for North American Studies at the American University, opened the summit with the main themes of his book published in 2011: "The North American Idea: A Vision of a Continental Future."

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was successful in breaking down trade barriers leading to tripled trade and quintupled foreign investment among the U.S., Mexico and Canada, increasing the region's share of the world economy.

Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles, **David Fransen**, reminded attendees that Canada buys three times more products from the U.S. than China. Canada is the #1 economic partner of U.S. trade in goods and services, generating \$1.3 million every minute.

Rick Van Schoik, Director of the Energy and Sustainability Portfolios at the North American Research Partnership, shared findings from a Trilateral Border Symposium held earlier this year at Arizona State University. The top seven recommendations focused on security, competitiveness, and energy.

From Canada's Privy Council Office (PCO), **Caron Wilson** - Policy Advisor for the Border Implementation Team, gave an update on implementation of the "Beyond the Border" action plan. This plan identifies four key areas of cooperation: 1) addressing threats early 2) trade facilitation, economic growth, and jobs 3) integrated cross-border law enforcement, and 4) critical infrastructure and cyber-security. She noted that more than 300,000 people cross the U.S.-Canada border daily and that 2012 total U.S. exports to Canada exceeded total U.S. exports to China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and Singapore combined.

From the Mexican State of Hidalgo, Economic Development Secretary **Jose Pablo Maaud Ponton** confirmed that manufacturing in Mexico is growing- at a rate of 3% in Hidalgo, and products are of the highest standards. Many Mexican states are in ideal locations although better technology, security, infrastructure and an efficient customs process are items to be addressed.

Honorable Cal Dallas, Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations for the Government of Alberta, shared some of the existing challenges in market access, including some that could reduce energy costs in the U.S.



Honorable Cal Dallas

Consul of Mexico in Las Vegas,

Julian Adem Diaz de Leon,

emphasized that Mexico is a reliable global partner for both Canada and the U.S. Mexico is the third-largest foreign provider to U.S. petroleum and the largest foreign supplier of fresh fruits and vegetables. Mexico is Canada's fourth largest trading partner worldwide and first in Latin America. As such, each country has a fundamental stake in the success of the other.



Russ Jones

Russ Jones, current Vice Chair of the Border Trade Alliance (BTA), closed the summit by highlighting BTA's commitment to improving the quality of life in border communities through the development of trade and commerce. While sequestration may put a significant strain on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's

ability to efficiently process trade, Jones applauded the agency for keeping private industry in close consult through the process.



Nevada-Hosted Policy Tours

Wednesday July 31, 2013



Hoover Dam

The Hoover Dam, a National Historic Landmark, which is ranked as one of America's Seven Modern Civil Engineering Wonders, was the premier tour of the CSG West Annual Meeting. On the ride out to the dam, a history professor from the College of Southern Nevada provided a narrative of the impacts that the dam has made to the southwest since it was built. At the dam, a video and an in-person oral narrative was presented by the Bureau of Reclamation regarding its construction and electrical output. Clean water was also discussed in relation to the drought the Colorado River Basin is experiencing. Stunning views of the Mike O'Callaghan-Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge, an engineering wonder in its own right, added to the beauty of the experience.

Downtown Redevelopment

Years of efforts to revitalize downtown Las Vegas have had a dramatic effect on the city's urban core. This tour highlighted the City of Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency's work and revitalization of the area's true center of community, culture and commerce by providing a driving tour showcasing the redevelopment area. The participants visited the new Las Vegas City Hall building, which is a glassy, futuristic, solar-powered structure that illuminates the neon heritage of Las Vegas at night. Participants also saw the location of the new Zappos headquarters, which



is located in the former City Hall. The company has spent millions of dollars to renovate the site and will bring its 1,500 employees to the site in the fall. The tour included a drive through Symphony Park, which is a 61-acre mixed-use urban community located in the heart of downtown Las Vegas. Finally, the group traveled down the famous Las Vegas Boulevard past Las Vegas' Neon Museum and retired iconic sights that have been restored.



Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area

Located in the Mojave Desert about 15 miles west of Las Vegas, the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area offers majestic views of extensive red rock formations, sandstone cliffs, limestone mountains and open desert. Approximately 50 people took the tour, which started at the visitor center with a brief overview of the functions, history,

and possible future expansion of the Conservation area given by a member of the Red Rock Canyon Interpretative Association. Following the briefing, the participants were free to wander the visitors section, view its displays, and step outside to take pictures and view the massive "Earth, Wind, and Fire" exhibits. Participants then boarded buses and travelled the 13-mile loop through the area.



July 30-August 2, 2013 • Las Vegas, Nevada • CSG West 66th Annual Meeting

Annual Legislative Training Assembly (ALTA)

ALTA maintains the CSG West commitment to offer capacity building opportunities for lawmakers, both new and experienced, at each year's CSG West annual meeting. This year's trainings focused on communications.

In the morning session, **Dr. Kari Ellingson**, Associate Vice President for Student Development at the University of Utah, provided perceptions on the intergenerational dynamics of today's workforce and constituency. Critical to effective communication is understanding your audience. Dr. Ellingson shared insights on the differences and similarities among generations focusing on demystifying the attributes, motivations, and outlooks that drive today's four major generations: Silent or Traditional, Baby Boomers, Generation X, and Millennials. Ellingson shared how these translate into expectations and beliefs about government, politics and issues.



Left to right: Jesse Taylor of Gem State Consulting and Idaho Senator Lee Heider

The afternoon session emphasized practical yet critical information on working with reporters, finding one's voice, and polishing skills to effectively craft and deliver your message. The two trainers, **Susan Feeney** and **Jon Summers**, provided guidance in these areas and recruited volunteers to "test out" the communication principles. Working in pairs, volunteers made brief, what is termed "elevator" speeches about their key legislative priorities. The trainers critiqued the speeches, providing communication tips. The training included insights on how to avoid pitfalls in responding to both traditional and new media. A group of volunteers participated in mock interviews with surprise questions.

The last portion of training focused on new media, particularly Facebook and Twitter. Useful guidance was provided on how to establish, enhance and shape social media presence. This teaching included extensive real world tactics for effective communication, not just with the press, but with the public, fellow legislators and other constituencies.



Left to right: Alaska Representative Lance Pruitt and Nevada Assemblyman Jason Frierson

Hawaii Representative Romy Cachola and Washington Representative Marcie Maxwell



Nevada Assemblyman
Tyrone Thompson



can you

hear

me?



WESTRAIN offers professional development training to legislators and legislative staff by bringing expert trainers to state capitols.

Trainings Are Offered In The Following Areas

Communications Training

Communications or media expert helps legislators and/or legislative staff become more effective at dealing with the media and public speaking.

Time And Priority Management

Productivity experts helps legislators and/or legislative staff manage the competing demands for their time and attention.

Stress Management

Learn strategies to cope more easily with workloads, expectations, and daily drama that cause stress and burnout.

Negotiation, Consensus Building, Conflict Resolution

Negotiation techniques for legislators on how to reach common ground, make a deal, and build consensus.

Ethics

Going beyond rules and laws to act ethically and avoid the appearance of dishonorable behavior.

Civil Discourse And Trust

Explore strategies to improve public discourse, build trust, and lead to constructive debate and policy solutions.

Pilot Training Programs

In the summer of 2012, the CSG West officers launched WESTRAIN, a pilot speaker's bureau project to deliver legislative effectiveness training directly to state capitols. California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana and Nevada were selected as the first pilot states. WESTRAIN offered training at new member orientations or other training events for lawmakers and staff.



California

Boston-based productivity expert **Kevin Stacey** (TrainRight, Inc.) provided a half day combination session on time and stress management for California Senate staff on March 22, 2013. The session was also live-streamed to district offices.



Idaho

Ethics trainer, former Iowa Representative **Scott Raecker** participated as part of a required half day ethics training on January 9, 2013. An estimated 200 individuals attended, including legislators and staff.

Denver-based negotiations trainer **Bev Obenchain** provided training for a new member orientation workshop on November 28, 2012. An estimated 30-35 attended.

Colorado



Montana

New Jersey-based communications trainer **Bill Graham** participated as part of new member orientation held on November 16, 2012. When legislative leaders asked him to modify his public speaking presentation to include media relations, he did so right on the spot.



Nevada

Boston-based trainer **Kevin Stacey** delivered two sessions on January 16, 2012. At the request of legislative leaders, time management training was delivered during new member orientation (17 legislators attended), and stress management training was delivered to legislative staff (more than 100 attended).

WLA Class of 2013



Front row (l to r): Victoria Steele (AZ Rep), Linda Ichiyama (HI Rep), Kristine Lytton (WA Rep), Christy Perry (ID Rep), Kathy Coleman (WY Rep), Doreen Gallegos (NM Rep), Michelle Stennett (ID Sen)
 Second row: Stephanie Garcia Richard (NM Rep), Daynette "Dee" Morikawa (HI Rep), Elizabeth Steiner Hayward (OR Sen), Kelli Ward (AZ Sen), Shelly Hughes (AK Rep), Dan Johnson (ID Sen)
 Third row: Jim Guthrie (ID Sen), Benjamin Nageak (AK Rep), Alissa Keny-Guyer (OR Rep), Polly Lawrence (CO Rep), Andrew "Andy" Eisen (NV Asmbr), Lois Landgraf (CO Rep), Deidre Henderson (UT Sen), Mary McNally (MT Rep), V. Lowery Snow (UT Rep)
 Fourth row: Ann Rivers (WA Sen), Cathrynn Brown (NM Rep), Scott Boulanger (MT Sen), Drew MacEwen (WA Rep), Thomas "T.J." Shope (AZ Rep), Joel Briscoe (UT Rep), Ty Cullen (HI Rep), Gilbert Kahele (HI Sen), James Healey (NV Asmbr)
 Fifth row: David "Doc" Moore (MT Rep), Bill Hansell (OR Sen), Lloyd Charles Larsen (WY Rep), Eric Feige (AK Rep), Scott Hammond (NV Sen), Dan Kirkbride (WY Rep)
 Not Pictured: James Oscarson (NV Asmbr)

Photo courtesy of Lynn Boute Photography

Western Legislators Complete Intensive Skills Training



Thirty-eight lawmakers from the West graduated from the 14th Western Legislative Academy (WLA), CSG

West's premier professional development program for newer legislators. The WLA Class of 2013 exceeded expectations during three and half days of training sessions aimed at strengthening their skills and building stronger legislative institutions.

Training sessions taught by top-notch faculty included time management, leadership, the art of decision-making, mental toughness, legislative ethics, negotiations, consensus building, and approaches to enhancing communication skills. Participating lawmakers were also provided an overview of legislative institutions, conducted team building exercises at the U.S. Air Force Academy and were inspired by

a portrayal of the first U.S. President, General George Washington.

The WLA boasts 526 graduates, with nearly 300 still serving in Western legislatures. Western lawmakers within their first four years of service are eligible to apply for the WLA. For more information, go to <http://www.csghost.org/legislativeacademy/WesternLegislativeAcademy.aspx>



WLA 2013 Class President
Arizona Senator Kelli Ward

Montana Hosts Western Legislative Directors

September 25-27 2013 in Whitefish, Montana

Nonpartisan legislative staff leaders from the Western region participated in management training and sharing of best legislative management practices during CSG West's Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Committee meeting in Montana in September. The group convenes annually for "outside" expertise on management training and "inside" sharing of best practices.

Strategies For Managing Stress in Today's Environment

They learned strategies for managing stress in today's legislative environment from organizational development specialist **Curt Swenson**. Professor **Quin Monson** of Brigham Young University shared public opinion trends shaping the West. And, Former Secretary of the Senate from Oregon, **Judy Hall**, led a discussion on how to build better relationships within state capitols.

Trends Shaping the West

Members also participated in panels on legislative management, intergenerational challenges, transparency versus confidentiality, technology advances, dealing with partisan gridlock and legislative structures.

Building Better Relationships

Mike Christensen, Director of Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel, chaired the meeting. **Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi**, Hawaii's acting director of the Legislative Reference Bureau serves as vice chair.



Demographics and Innovations in Technology

July 31, 2013 CSG West Annual Meeting
Las Vegas, Nevada

Convened at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) Richard Tam Alumni Center, the CSG West WESTRENDS Board focused on two significant subjects affecting the Western region.

Changing Politics and Demographics

Dr. Robert Lang, director of the Brookings Institute West at UNLV, provided an overview of changing demographics and politics of the West that have transformed the region into America's "New Heartland," with a rising constituency that will serve as a key swing vote in future state and national elections. Lang's presentation included data on demographic trends shaping the political landscape, such as the rise of minorities, urbanization and emerging metropolitan voting patterns, and the Millennial Generation. Recent redistricting and reapportionment processes were discussed as proponents of the intensification of the urban-rural divide in the West.

Science and Technology Shaping Government

Former Nevada Assembly Majority Leader and current Associate Director of the Lied Institute for Real Estate Studies at UNLV, **Marcus Conklin**, presented a segment on innovations in technology and how they are shaping the role of government. Conklin spoke about the speed and scope of these changes that have revolutionized the manner in which individuals and industries across a plethora of fields function.

Mr. Conklin also spoke about the role and challenges of state governments to adapt to these transformational changes while protecting privacy and providing services to the public. The presentation analyzed some of the innovations that are requiring governments to alter approaches and practices, and what this means for the evolution of the West.

westrends



CHAIR
Beth Kerttula
Representative
Alaska



VICE CHAIR
John McComish
Senator
Arizona

WESTRENDS

WESTRENDS focuses on the implications for policy makers of the demographic, economic and cultural trends that are shaping Western states. Forums provide opportunities to evaluate the direction and velocity of trends that affect the quality of life in the West.

2013 WESTRENDS Board Participants

Representative Beth Kerttula, Alaska
Senator John McComish, Arizona
Senator Nancy Todd, Colorado
Representative Marcus Oshiro, Hawaii
Representative Maxine Bell, Idaho
Representative Douglas Coffin, Montana
Assemblywoman Irene Bustamante Adams, Nevada
Representative Rudy Martinez, New Mexico
Senate President Pro Tem Ginny Burdick, Oregon
Senator Ralph Okerlund, Utah
Senator Karen Fraser, Washington
Representative Norine Kasperik, Wyoming



Legislative Council on River Governance



The purpose of the Legislative Council on River Governance (LCRG) is to enhance state legislative engagement over natural resources and river governance in the Columbia and Snake River Basins, and to unite the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington to develop a proactive agenda of legislative action and communications.

The 2013 LCRG meeting occurred October 3-4 in Boardman, Oregon at the Port of Morrow. This year the LCRG was chaired by **Oregon Senator Doug Whitsett** with a major focus on the Columbia River Treaty and the benefits that the treaty provides to Columbia River Basin States. As 2014 is the first year that Canada or the United States can choose to unilaterally give 10-year notice of their intent to end the Treaty, both countries are in the process of reviewing the treaty. Representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers, Bonneville Power Administration, and the Columbia River Treaty Review Team for the Government of British Columbia shared perspectives on the Treaty. Members also heard from the First Nations, ports, and agricultural interests about the Treaty as well as receiving an update on the Hanford Nuclear Site Cleanup.

Copies of the meeting presentations are available at:
<http://www.csgwest.org/programs/2013LCRG.aspx>

The 2014 meeting will be held in Montana and chaired by **Montana Senator Jennifer Fielder**.



Border Legislative Conference

XXVII Forum, September 5-7, 2013 in El Paso, Texas

Hosted with the support of **Texas State Senator Jose Rodriguez**, legislators representing nine of the 10 U.S.-Mexico border states assembled for the XXVII Forum of the Border Legislative Conference (BLC). The meeting provided lawmakers an opportunity to engage with experts on key issues such as cross-border transportation infrastructure, development of border master plans and the impact of climate change on the region's agriculture and water supplies.

The meeting kicked off with welcome messages from **Congressman Beto O'Rourke** and El Paso **Mayor Oscar Leeser**. The El Paso presentation of The State of the Border Report, a comprehensive analysis of the U.S.-Mexico border, was held at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) by **Erik Lee**, Executive Director of the North American Research Partnership, and **Chris Wilson**, Associate from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars - Mexico Institute.

Ana Luisa Fajer, Director General for North America of Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was keynote speaker and discussed the role of state legislatures in fostering innovation and enhanced North American cooperation. Members examined implications for the border region regarding recent initiatives in Colorado and Washington to legalize recreational use of marijuana. CSG West Vice Chair,



Left to right: Texas Senator Jose Rodriguez; 2013 BLC Chair Diputado E. Gabriel Flores Viramontes; Mexico Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director for North America Ana Luisa Fajer; Consul General of Mexico in El Paso Jacob Prado

Colorado Senator Nancy Todd, provided an overview of the initiative process and how Colorado is moving forward in the implementation.

Members visited the Museum of the Revolution in Ciudad Juarez, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Chamizal Treaty signed in 1963 by U.S. President Lyndon Johnson and Mexican President Adolfo Lopez Mateos. The treaty settled a land dispute between the two countries along the Rio Grande. Several dignitaries participated in the celebration, including U.S. Consul General in Ciudad Juarez, Ian Brownlee; Mexico Consul General in El Paso, Jacob Prado; Ciudad Juarez Mayor Hector Murguia Lardizabal and Ralph Seitsinger, Mayor of El Paso in 1963.

Chihuahua Diputado E. Gabriel Flores Viramontes was recognized for his service as 2013 BLC Chair.

California Senator Lou Correa will chair the BLC in 2014 with the support of **Nuevo Leon Diputada Imelda Alejandro** as the Vice Chair. The next BLC will convene in Nuevo Leon, Mexico in 2014.



Map Courtesy of U.S. EPA Border 2020

Sponsorship Appreciation

The BLC appreciates financial support provided through a cooperative agreement with USAID/Mexico, along with sponsorship support from El Paso Electric and Pfizer Inc.

U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership



A Model of Multi-Branch Cooperation

The U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership is a dynamic collaborative and multi-branch program administered by CSG aimed at strengthening binational cooperation among federal, state and local officials of both countries. Funded through a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Alliance Partnership enhances the role of state officials to address shared public policy concerns that transcend international borders.



Left to right: Ricardo Pineda, Former Consul of Mexico in Boise, Idaho; Lawrence Wasden, Idaho Attorney General; Angel Garcia Covarrubias, San Luis Potosi Attorney General; Irma Rodriguez, San Luis Potosi Attorney General Office Chief Deputy

Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG)

On March 5-6, 2013 San Luis Potosi Attorney General Miguel Angel Garcia Covarrubias visited Lawrence Wasden, the Idaho Attorney General, in Boise, Idaho. The Attorney General (AG) was accompanied by his Chief Deputy Irma Rodriguez Aranda. The delegation met with AG Wasden to discuss binational collaboration, especially regarding transnational criminal organizations and the bilateral cooperation necessary to combat them. The Attorneys General also discussed implementation of an oral trial system, as the state of San Luis Potosi will start oral trials next year.

A delegation of CWAG Attorneys General was invited to meet with Mexico's Federal Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam in Mexico City on March 19. Attorneys General Catherine Cortez Masto of Nevada, Gary King of New Mexico, Lawrence Wasden of Idaho, John Swallow of Utah, and John Suthers of Colorado reiterated the CWAG Alliance Partnership's commitment to working with Mexico's States Attorneys General through the National Conference of Attorneys General. Mexico's Federal Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam expressed the continued support of the conference-to-conference collaborations.



Left to right: Gary King, New Mexico Attorney General; John Suthers, Colorado Attorney General; Catherine Cortez Masto, Nevada Attorney General and CWAG Immediate Past Chair 2013-2014; Jesus Murillo Karam, Mexico Federal Attorney General; Lawrence Wasden, Idaho Attorney General; John Swallow, Former Utah Attorney General



Representatives from NAST were joined by Mexican Public Finance Officials at the US and Mexico Subnational Finance Officer Roundtable held at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Mexico Institute in Washington, DC. Panel discussions included the following topics: Infrastructure and Competitiveness; Subnational Debt; Financial Literacy; and Budget Transparency.

National Association of State Treasurers (NAST)

On June 28, 2013 the National Association of State Treasurers adopted a resolution stating that their strongly support to continue the efforts of the NAST Foundation to inform and be informed by subnational officials in Mexico including the sharing of information regarding financial literacy. This is in direct support of the memorandums of understanding to provide financial literacy materials to the Mexican states of Campeche, Morelos, Tamaulipas, and the Distrito Federal.

In September 2013, the National Commission to Protect Users of Financial Institutions (CONDUSEF in Spanish) website was linked to Tomorrow's Money in Spanish and "Ahorrando" websites. The Mexican Treasury Agency in

charge of financial literacy has for more than a decade invested in developing financial literacy contents for students from grades 1-12, homemakers, non-finance professionals. They have authorized a link to the NAST Foundation websites to share financial literacy contents in Spanish. The URLs in English & Spanish are: <http://www.tomorrowmoney.org> and <http://www.ahorrando.org>

National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) and the Mexican Association of Secretaries of Economic Development (AMSDE)

New Mexico Lieutenant Governor John Sanchez, in his newly appointed role as West Region Chair, hosted the inaugural Economic Forum of the National Lieutenant Governors Association and the Mexican Association of Secretaries of Economic Development from February 8-10, 2013 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



Left to right: New Mexico Lieutenant Governor, John Sanchez and Arizona Secretary of State, Ken Bennett

The forum included working sessions on transportation, education and workforce, exports and trade.

Lt. Gov. Sanchez moderated the roundtable discussion on exports and foreign direct investment (FDI). Forum participants included: Lt. Gov. Tim Murray of Massachusetts and Lt. Gov. Yvonne Prettner Solon of Minnesota; the Arizona Secretary of State, Ken Bennett;

the Economic Development Secretaries of the Mexican states of Coahuila, Jose Antonio Gutierrez Jardon; Colima, Rafael Gutierrez Villalobos; and Hidalgo, Jose Pablo Maauad Ponton. The forum was made possible by generous support from a cooperative agreement between CSG and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership is comprised of various partners that carry out binational efforts, including NLGA.



Left to right: Colima Economic Development Secretary, Rafael Gutierrez Villalobos, and Massachusetts Lieutenant Governor, Tim Murray

North American Research Partnership and Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

On May 23, 2013, The State of the Border report was launched by co-editors Erik Lee and Christopher Wilson at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, DC. The launch included remarks and perspectives from the following luminaries:

- Representative Raul Grijalva, Co-Chair, Congressional Border Caucus
- Representative Filemon Vela, Co-Chair, Congressional Border Caucus
- Andrew Selee, Vice President for Programs, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars
- Edward Alden, Bernard L. Schwartz Senior Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations
- Lisa Almodovar, Senior Program Manager, U.S.-Mexico Program, Environmental Protection Agency
- Patrick Kilbride, Executive Director, Strategic Policy Initiatives, Americas, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Erik Lee, Executive Director, North American Research Partnership
- Carlos de la Parra, Professor & Researcher, El Colegio de la Frontera Norte
- Christopher Wilson, Associate, Mexico Institute

More information on the report can be found at <http://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/the-state-the-border-report>



U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partners

Border Legislative Conference • Conference of Western Attorneys General • Council of State Governments (CSG)
CSG Southern Legislative Conference • CSG West • National Association of State Treasurers
National Lieutenant Governors Association • North American Research Partnership
USAID/Mexico • Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars-Mexico Institute

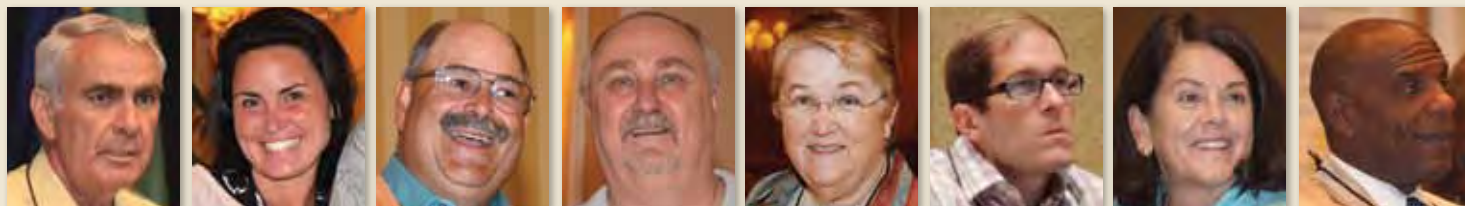
- Allergan Inc.
- Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.
- Apollo Group, Inc.
- Associated General Contractors-Nevada and Las Vegas Chapters
- Bank of America
- Bell Transportation
- Boyd Gaming Company
- The Capitol Company
- Caesars Entertainment
- Celgene Corporation
- Check into Cash, Inc.
- Clint Holmes
- CNA Insurance Companies
- Comcast
- Express Scripts
- Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Farmers Insurance
- Genentech, Inc.
- Government of Canada
- Intuit
- The JGS Group
- Johnson & Johnson
- Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
- Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
- McDonald's USA
- McLane Company
- Monsanto Company
- Nevada Dental Association
- Nevada Trucking Association
- Newmont Mining Corporation
- One Nevada Credit Union
- Pacific Power/Rocky Mountain Power
- The Perkins Company
- PhRMA
- Porter Gordon Silver Communications
- Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada
- Security Finance Corporation
- Shell Oil Company
- SRP
- State Government Affairs Council
- Sunovion Pharmaceuticals Inc.
- Toyota North America
- TransCanada
- Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association
- Ultimate Fighting Championship
- Union Pacific Railroad
- United Parcel Service
- Walgreens
- Walmart
- Wells Fargo
- Wynn Resorts

Special Thanks to the 20

Your support enhanced our capabilities to provide substantive forums, training sessions and networking opportunities for Western state legislators.



Altria



Western state legislators reach across state and party lines and learn from one another,

13 CSG West Sponsors

Thank you for your participation and investment to strengthen state legislatures in the West!



"Serving Western Legislatures"

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Anchorage Alaska Photograph by Ken Graham

January-May	CSG West staff visits to Western Legislatures during sessions Hosting Western Legislative Academy Alumni events
April 25	CSG West 15th Western Legislative Academy Applications Due
Spring	XXVIII Border Legislative Conference, Nuevo Leon, Mexico
May 29-31*	CSG Cybersecurity & Privacy Policy Academy, Washington, D.C.
June 17-19*	CSG Policy Academy for Newly Elected Legislators: Medicaid, Washington, D.C. CSG Policy Academy for Newly Elected Legislators: Higher Education, Washington, D.C.
June 19-21	CSG Leadership Forum, Washington, D.C.
August 7-8*	CSG Electric & Hybrid Vehicle Infrastructure & Smart Grid Implications Policy Academy, Seattle, Washington
August 9-13	CSG West/CSG National Joint Annual Conference, Anchorage, Alaska
September 5-10	CSG Toll Fellowship Program, Lexington, Kentucky
September 16-18*	CSG Future of Federal Transportation Program Policy Academy, Washington, D.C. CSG Medicaid Leadership Academy, Washington, D.C.
September 26-28*	CSG Natural Gas Policy Academy, Denver, Colorado
Fall	Legislative Council on River Governance
Fall	Western Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Committee Annual Training Seminar
October 2-4*	CSG Workforce Development & Veteran Reentry Policy Academy, Location TBD
November 17-20	CSG West 15th Western Legislative Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
December 2-4*	CSG State Tax Reform Policy Academy, Location TBD

**Themes and dates are tentative*

ALASKA

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For more information:

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The Council of State Governments KNOWLEDGE CENTER

<http://knowledgecenter.csg.org/kc/>

The Knowledge Center provides the tools and information you need to better understand complex policy situations and help you make better decisions for your state.

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Regional by design, CSG is a national community with six offices across the U.S. All CSG members have the opportunity to participate on two levels—regional and national. This structure invites focused participation from members on a more intimate, regional level and also provides a national community to exchange information and ideas. The regional and national offices also invite international participation through partnerships with Canadian provinces.



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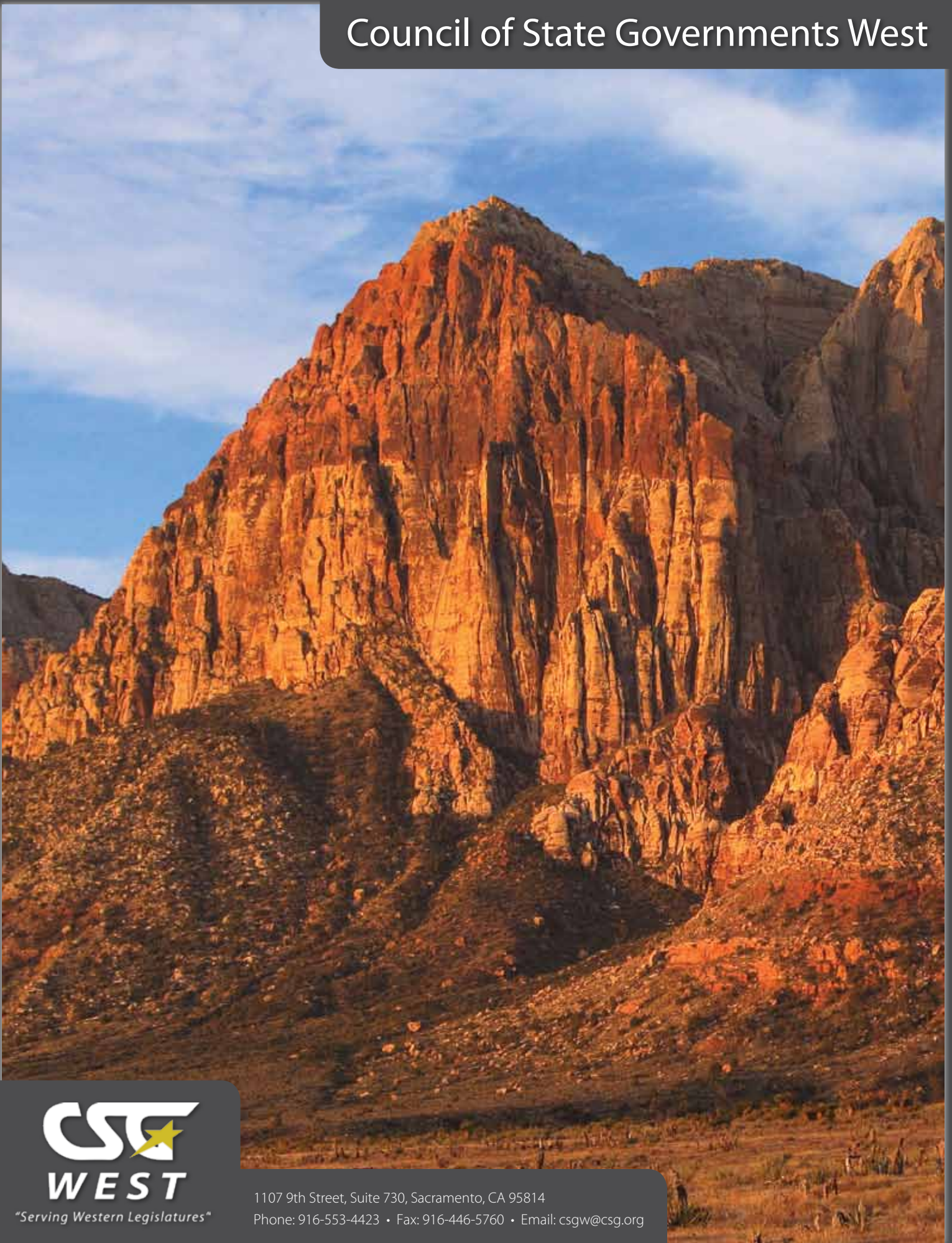
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